

ABSTRACT

An image forming apparatus of the present invention includes a first and a second intermediate image transfer belt contacting each other to form a nip for secondary image transfer. While the nip is heated, a sheet is passed
5 through the nip to thereby transfer toner images respectively formed on the first and second belts to opposite surfaces of the sheet at the same time. The nip is sized such that image transfer and fixation can be
10 effected at temperature higher than the melting point or the softening point of toner by 5°C to 50°C.